

BEST BUDDIES®



Celeena & Rebecca
Friendship program participants

BESTBUDDIES®

Friendship, Jobs, Leadership Development & Living

What is Best Buddies?

Global nonprofit dedicated to inclusion for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Our Mission

**Friendship, Jobs,
Leadership Development
& Living**

Empowering people with disabilities by helping them form meaningful friendships with their peers, secure rewarding jobs, live independently, and feel valued by society.



Friendship program Participants at the
Best Buddies Leadership Conference

How Our Programs Work

Our Key Mission Pillars



One-To-One Friendship

Builds friendships between people with and w/o IDD, offering social mentoring while improving the quality of life and level of inclusion.



Integrated Employment

Secures jobs for people with IDD, allowing them to earn an income, pay taxes, and support themselves.



Leadership Development

Educates and empowers people with and without IDD to be leaders, public speakers and advocates.



Inclusive Living

Fosters an integrated experience for people with and without IDD to live independently in a dynamic environment where they can learn, grow, and thrive.

BEST BUDDIES IN SACRAMENTO

1989



Best Buddies was founded

by Anthony Kennedy Shriver in Miami, FL after launching pilot at Georgetown University

1990



UC Davis Chapter Opens

just one year after Best Buddies was founded, the first chapters in California included UC Davis, UCLA, Palo Alto HS, and others

2015



Sacramento State Chapter opens

the first chapter in 25 years was opened in Sacramento area managed by the San Francisco office

2018



Center High School chapter opens

launching expansion efforts in the greater Sacramento area. 8 schools have opened chapters since 2018

2021



Best Buddies Jobs launches & Regional Office opens

first dedicated staff hired to expand Friendship and Jobs program

Friendship Programs

Our friendship pillar encompasses programs that offer socialization opportunities for people with and without IDD including:

- **Elementary Schools**
- **Middle Schools**
- **High Schools**
- **Colleges**
- **Citizens**
- **e-Buddies**

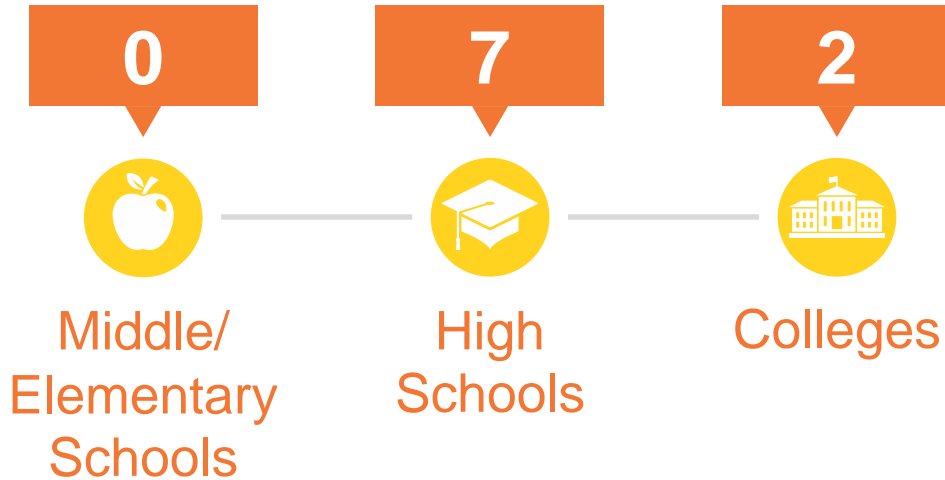
Our programs provide meaningful connections with their peers, gain self-confidence and self-esteem, and share interests, experiences and activities that many other individuals enjoy.



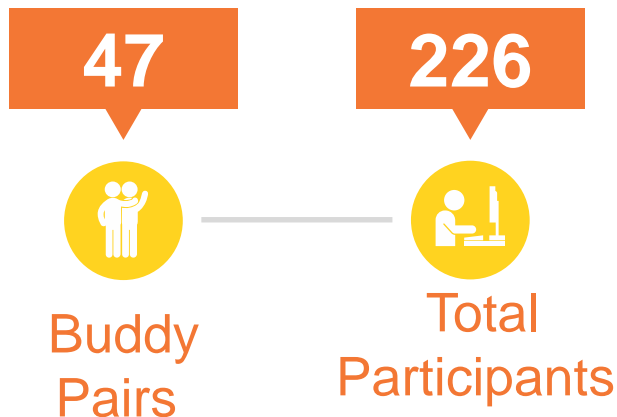
Clay & Bert
Friendship program participants

Friendship By The Numbers

Sacramento Friendship Chapters



Sacramento Friendship Matches



- Antelope High School
- Center High School
- Davis Senior High School
- Pioneer High School
- Sacramento State
- UC Davis
- Vacaville High School
- Woodcreek High School
- Oakmont High School

Sacramento Expansion

2021 and beyond



Devin & Savannah
Friendship program Buddy Pair



Peer-to-Peer
Connection

Our goal is to open 5 new chapters to
open by July 2022.

Jobs Program

Best Buddies Jobs secures employment for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD), allowing them to earn an income, pay taxes, and continuously and independently support themselves.

The Jobs program places focus beyond the typical jobs in which a person with IDD might be placed. Best Buddies focuses on finding work that matches the job seeker's interests and talents.



Carlos
Jobs program participant
Best Buddies Colombia

Sacramento Jobs Status

How The Program Works



Carolina
Jobs program participant



81%

of people with
disabilities do not
have a paid job in the
community



Matches skilled and qualified individuals with IDD with businesses seeking enthusiastic and dedicated employees.



Develops partnerships with employers and assists with the hiring process.



Provides ongoing support to the employee and the employer

Mutually Beneficial Experience

- Competitive and inclusive jobs
- Professional environments
- Person-centered approach
- On the job training
- Job placements depending on skills and abilities
- Support for employers
- Awareness orientations



Sacramento Jobs

Since our launch...



5 Individuals have been placed in Jobs



Currently intaking job seekers



Hosting over 15 presentations to companies and community groups in honor of NDEAM this month



Leadership Development Programs

Best Buddies' leadership programs educate and empower people with and without IDD to become leaders, public speakers and advocates. Best Buddies passionately believes that its program participants can lead the effort within their community and beyond to build a more inclusive world for people with IDD, our programs include:

- **Ambassadors**
- **Promoters**



Jack
Best Buddies Ambassador



BEST BUDDIES® FRIENDSHIP WALK

The *Best Buddies Friendship Walk* is the leading walk in the country supporting inclusion for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). Since 2009, more than 150,000 participants in 60 cities have walked to raise awareness for inclusion, friendship, leadership development and integrated job opportunities for people with IDD. Funds raised at the walks help move our mission forward by funding local Best Buddies programs. Each walk provides a unique opportunity to see our mission in action at a local level. Every dollar raised goes towards making the world a more inclusive, accepting place.

Saturday, April 30, North Natomas Regional Park

www.bestbuddiesfriendshipwalk.org/sacramento



Attendees at the start line of the
Best Buddies Friendship Walk: South Florida

Ways you can help our mission expansion

- Volunteer:
 - Be matched with a buddy
 - Volunteer for an ambassador training
 - Lend your skills on our board or FW committee
 - Mock interviews
 - Become an Employer Partner
 - Join us on Walk day!
- Spread the word:
 - Connect us with a school, company, job seeker
 - Connect us with others we should partner with or present to



Keep in Touch



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Visit Us

BESTBUDDIES.ORG



Currently serving the following counties:

- Sacramento
- Placer
- El Dorado County
- Yuba
- Yolo

BEST BUDDIES®



MAKE A FRIEND | DONATE | VOLUNTEER

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